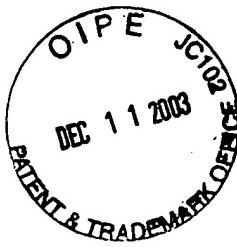


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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 15568.15



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

John Derek Guest

Serial No. 10/660,099) Art Unit
Filing Date: September 11, 2003) 3679
Confirmation No.: 6876)
For: IMPROVEMENT IN OR RELATING TO TUBE)
COUPLINGS)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Arlington, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments.